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ISSUE ONE
SEPTEMBER 2010

The Newsletter of St Edmund's Nursery
School & Children's Centre

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Ready Steady Eddie

Welcome to our new look newsletter

We hope you like our new format newsletter and that you find the name appropriate—it was decided following a competition between the staff and the intriguing name was invented by Lindsay, our Deputy Headteacher, based on the original nursery school name of “St Edmunds” which first opened its doors on 24th October 1874.

As you can see we have been around for quite a while!

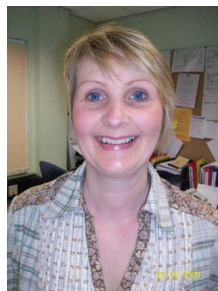


The newsletter will be distributed on the first Friday of each half term and will contain details of all

the exciting events and activities taking place. Staff in the centre will have the opportunity to contribute to our publication, so look out for all our news!!

Hopefully you will find it useful to have all of the information based in one place but please do give us your views and suggestions.

A week in the life of.....A Parental Involvement Officer



In my role as Parental Involvement Worker at St.Edmund's, I want to provide even more ways for you to get involved in the life of the Centre and in the learning process of your children. *Being part of your child's day has significant impact on your children's experience of education!*

I am usually in the Centre to “Meet and Greet” you from 8.45-

9.15 (look for me in the corridor) with any news, information and events that may-be taking place. If you need any help or information I'll do my best to assist you at all times.

See overleaf for a glimpse of a typical week in my role.....

A week in the life of.....A Parental Involvement Officer

As part of the Family and Community team I help deliver many courses and activities for parents/carers. These offer opportunities for families to come together in a fun and exciting way.

To help you further with any information we have two main notice boards which are situated in the main corridor and also outside at the end of the drive.

My role also involves running:

Lending Library Sessions

Mon-1.15 pm-2.30pm
Fri. 8.45am-10.00am
In Reception Area

Food Co-op

Every Wednesday
8.45am-2.30pm
For your Fresh fruit and
vegetables

Play and Learn Course

Thursday 1.30pm-2.30pm.

Come along and have fun with your child.
Learn how to use things that you have in your
own home with your child.

- ✦ Play-dough
- ✦ Cornflour
- ✦ Tactile and Messy Play
- Junk Materials

Book your place With Amanda or at Reception



Lending Library

The library is available for everyone
at the centre to join.

All the activities are there for you to
take home and play with your child.

We have;

- ✦ A Selection of play activities for
babies under 12mths.
- ✦ Books and Puppets.
 - ✦ Story Books.
- ✦ Non-Fiction Books.
- ✦ Role-Play Outfits

“St Edmund's
Nursery is an
outstanding
school. It
makes
outstanding
Early Years
Foundation
stage
provision for
all children.”

Ofsted

January 2009

Staffing Updates

Well we've had a busy few
weeks over the summer
holidays—Rizwana Early Years
Practitioner in the 2/3 room
gave birth to a bouncing baby
girl (weighing in at 7lb) at the
beginning of August—mum and
baby are both fine



whilst Clare (Yellow Room)
and Maria (Outreach
Practitioner) both started their
maternity leave—watch this
space for news of more St
Edmund's babies.

Another member of staff who
had an exciting summer was
Diane—Early Years
Practitioner currently based in
Red Room. Diane was

married on the very beautiful
island of Cyprus during
August and has now changed
her name from Fletcher to
Collins. I'm sure, like
everyone here at St
Edmunds you will join us in
wishing the happy couple a
long and happy
marriage.



**The new “Mrs Collins”
back at work**

Hit the ground crawling

Hit The Ground Crawling is a training programme to help Dads connect with their baby and be involved throughout their children's lives.

The training has been provided by the Fatherhood Institute. It runs as a workshop taught by experienced Dads for Dads "to be" where everyone can share experiences and discuss concerns.

This "Dad to be" format has proven exceptionally effective; anyone who witnesses the pride and confidence of the Hit The Ground Crawling experts will never underestimate the capabilities of men to take care of new baby as well as providing support to the new mum.

Hit The Ground Crawling addresses a broad range of issues including those relating to work, forming a parenting team, safety, preventing child abuse and much more.

Please contact Claire, Imran or Jane if you want to know more about this.

**The
school's
contribution
to
community
cohesion is
outstanding.**

*Ofsted
January
2009*

Family and Community Services

Over the coming months we aim to keep you informed about the activities or events that are coming up—here are a few new ones.....

Bumps to babies

Starts Thursday 16th September 12.30 - 2.00pm.

6 week course - for anyone who is pregnant or has a baby up to the age of 7 months.

Advice on breast feeding, weaning, routines—refreshments served.
No crèche available.

Do you want to learn English?

ShIPLEY College will be doing assessments for ESOL on Monday 13th September 2010 between 1.00pm - 4.00pm in the Training Room. Sorry but there is no crèche available and no children allowed during the assessment sessions. There will be crèche facilities available when the course begins on Monday 4th October

Do you want advice on benefits?

We have a new service available from the Disability Advice Bureau—if you would like to meet with our friendly new advisor please ask at reception to make an appointment with Zarqa.



Red Room News

Welcome back and welcome to our class!

This half term in Red Class we will be thinking about 'Ourselves'. We will be joined by some new children from home and some children will be moving from the 2-3 room. When thinking about ourselves we will be exploring using our bodies in many different ways, painting with our hands and moving around in different ways outside, it is important to remember to dress your child in clothes which they can explore in comfortably. Our core story is Goldilocks and The Three Bears—we will be using props and role play to re-tell the story. We will also be making porridge for our snack just like the Three Bears



Staff working in Red class are Cara, Diane, Maryum and Yvonne. We will also be joined by Ermina who will be covering Cara's maternity leave which is due to begin this half term.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about the 15 hours now being offered as free nursery places and to just ask that you are prompt with collecting your children at the end of the sessions; we suggest that you are outside the class 5 minutes before collecting as this will prevent your child from feeling anxious.



Eid Mubarak!

Our Eid party will take place on the 15th September and for the children who attend lunch sessions we will be having our Eid meal on the 16th September.

We would like to invite parents to join your child on our Open Day taking place on the 4th October we will be having a Teddy Bears' Picnic. Please remember your child's Teddy Bear and if you are not able to join us please remember your child will still be able to join in the fun so to bring their bear along.

Red Class School photographs will take place this half term on the 12th October.

"Us, Our Community, Our World" is a wonderful week from the 18th October where we celebrate the St Edmunds community - we will be sampling foods from different cultures with the children at snack time. We will be learning some Polish Rhymes in preparation throughout the term and enjoying some visitors to the centre. It would be lovely if you and your families would also like to come along and be involved!

The half term will end on the 21st October as the 22nd October is a training day and so Red class will be closed

General notes from all.....

Amanda—Parent Involvement Worker is trying to set up a

PARENTS FORUM group.

This will give everyone the chance to

Have a nice cup of Tea and Coffee

Meet new parents

Have the opportunity to be more involved

Chill and Chat

Make decisions about our school/centre

***If you would like to be part of the group please see
Amanda***



We realise that as parents you like to know your child is safe and well whilst attending our school/centre—but would request that you do not telephone us too often to check!!

Telephones calls are not put through into the children' s room as we feel that this disrupts the learning experience. Our admin team are happy to check up on your behalf but as this is a very busy centre demands on their time are high.

We appreciate your co-operation and hope you realise that if there is ever a problem with your child/ren we will contact you immediately.

Yellow Room's Update

This half term in Yellow Class we will be learning about 'Ourselves'. Our core story is 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears', which will help us to think about ourselves and begin to think about our feelings and how others may feel. During our play we will be observing how our bodies change and thinking about keeping our bodies clean and healthy. At snack time we will be eating healthy snacks of fruit and trying porridge that the Bears liked to eat. We will begin to think about caring for others. Goldilocks and the Three Bears will help us to learn about different sizes and begin to use size language: small, middle sized and big.

We have a very busy half term welcoming new children and parents into our class. Children and staff will celebrate Eid on the 15th September by having an Eid party. On the 4th October we will be inviting parents to join their children at play for our first Open Day of the school year. The theme of the day will be a 'Teddy Bears' Picnic' and the children will be asked to bring a Teddy Bear from home to nursery. Then on the 12th October a photographer will be coming to nursery to take the children's school photographs.



During the last week of the half term, 18th October to the 21st October, the whole nursery will be celebrating 'Us, Our Community, Our World' with a special week looking at rhymes, customs and foods from around the world. A diary of events will be available nearer the time.

Santina, Jane and I would like to welcome Kim into our team. Clare is at home on maternity leave as she is due to have her new baby very soon. Hazra has left the confines of Yellow Class and will be working within both Red and Yellow Class. Using her bilingual skills she will be supporting children and adults to further develop their English.

As you can see—we're going to be pretty busy!!!

Building Brighter Smiles

Bradford & Airedale Community Health Service will be joining us on Friday 8th October (8.00—12.00) to talk to parents about a new scheme they are promoting for "Brighter Smiles". They will then be joining us on 20th October to offer children a fluoride varnish to protect young teeth.

Please come along to find out more.....



News from the Under Threes.....

The summer has been a busy time in the under three rooms. Lots of children (birth to 5) continue to access the centre throughout July and August and many exciting things have been happening both inside and out.



In September some children will move from the 2/3 room to either Red or Yellow Class. Lots of visits were organised before the summer holiday but joining a new class can be unsettling. Staff from the 2/3 room will be there to support the transition and children can pop back to the 2/3 room to see their friends.

The under three provision continues to be extremely popular; throughout September staff will be visiting children at home and supporting them settling in the rooms. Some of the older children in the birth/2 room will begin the transition to the 2/3 room in anticipation of their move in October. If there is anything you want to know about transition please talk to your child's key-worker.

We are really lucky at St Edmund's to have lovely outdoor play areas where children can find out more about the environment and really challenge their physical skills. Outdoor play is really important for children's development and so is available for the majority of the day; please remember as the weather gets cooler to send your child with a coat and footwear suitable for outdoor play.

Better Together meetings between parents/carers and key-workers are on-going in the birth/2 and 2/3 rooms, these provide a wonderful opportunity to share information and achievements. Remember you are always welcome to take your child's file home to look through and we really appreciate any information you can add.

As we have now introduced the longer sessions for our Nursery children we must stress that it is very important for you to collect your children **ON TIME**. This enables staff to set up rooms and resources for the following session.

Unfortunately if children are not collected on time we will have to charge parents £3.50 per 15 minutes for the children to be part of the extended provision

Session times are:

Mornings 8.45 am— 11.45 am

Afternoons 12.30 pm—3.30 pm

And the closing lines.....

The last day of term is always very emotional as we say goodbye to the children and families who are leaving us to move on to the next stage of their education. This July was no exception and was particularly emotional as it was the first time we said goodbye to children who had been with us since they were babies in the Birth to Two room. The confidence and enthusiasm for learning these children showed filled me with pride. We can feel confident that together we have given the children the best possible start on their learning journey.

The last week of term Lindsay and I ran some training for the Foundation Stage Team of one of the Primary Schools in Clayton. The team spent time in the children 's rooms and also had lunch with Red and Yellow Class. The staff were amazed at the maturity and confidence the children showed and could not believe that they were Nursery aged children!

The start of the term is always very busy with home visits and new children starting and also many of our families will be celebrating Eid. On behalf of everyone at St Edmund 's we would like to wish you Eid Mubarak.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 6th September

Nursery opens

Wednesday 15th September

Eid party

Thursday 16th September

Eid meal for staff and children

Tuesday 21st September

9.00—11.00—Parents' Eid Party

Saturday 25th September

Men's Morning

Monday 4th October

Teddy Bears' Picnic and Open Day—Red and Yellow rooms

Friday 8th October

8.00—12.00 Building Brighter Smiles information session

Tuesday 12th October

Photographer in school/centre

Monday 18th October

Us, Our Community, Our World Week

A TIMETABLE WILL BE SENT OUT NEARER THE TIME

Wednesday 20th October

9.00 - 3.00 Application of Fluoride varnish

Thursday 21st October

Nursery closes for half-term

Friday 22nd October

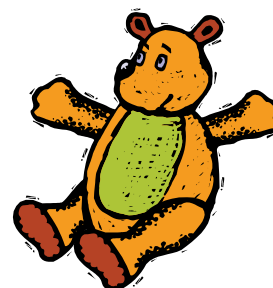
Training day (**SCHOOL/CENTRE CLOSED**)

Saturday 23rd October

Men's Morning

Monday 1st November

School re- opens



There's lots of ways to get in touch.....

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Putting children and families at the centre of learning